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GILES' FAREWELL?

CHAMPIONS ARE GOOD BET FOR GRAND FINAL WIN

— By PAUL DEAN —

Hakoah, the oldest established of all Sydney "migrant" clubs, has won the Federation championship for the first time.

In many ways it was a fitting reward for a club which all but sparked off the start of the Federation 12 years ago and has since played a leading role in its affairs.

Over the years Hakoah have provided more presidents and other leaders for the Federation than any other club.

Now, somewhat belatedly, success came their way on the field, too.

Twice before Hakoah went close to winning the championship.

In 1962 they finished second, only one point behind Budapest; in 1966, they were again second, this time three points behind APIA.

(How Hakoah won the title — page 3.)

Pan Hellenic, the club that dramatically revitalised the Sydney soccer scene this year, came a close second — their best placing ever.

There is no more doubt that under their new, stable management Pan Hellenic

have finally shed their long-standing inconsistency and will play an increasingly major part in future championships.

If past performances are any criterion, Hakoah's chances seem the brightest for a Grand Final victory.

So far they have played in three Grand Finals — and won them all: in 1961, 1962 and 1966.

APIA have been in six Grand Finals — but have only won two; Prague have won one and lost one while Pan Hellenic have yet to get there at all.

Counting all matches in the play-off series in the past (semifinals, finals, grand finals, replays and, since 1966, the round-robins as well), these are their records:



This determined header by Ron Giles typified the aggressive mood of Croatia last Saturday when they trounced Canterbury 5-1 at Arlington Oval. Giles scored a goal in what may have been his farewell Sydney appearance.

MARNOCH WINS KIWI CRUISE

Allan Marnoch has won the "Soccer World"-Flotta Lauro Players' Contest with an average of 4.22 points for the 22 championship rounds.

The Hakoah skipper's prize is a six-day holiday cruise to New Zealand on one of Flotta Lauro's luxury liners, the "Achille Lauro" or "Angelina Lauro".

Flotta Lauro, one of the world's leading shipping companies, associated itself with "Soccer World" this year to sponsor the Contest as part of our 10th anniversary celebrations.

Marnoch, who led throughout the entire Contest, will be presented with his ticket before the kick-off of Hakoah's Australia Cup Sydney semifinal "leg" at Wentworth Park on October 13 or October 20.

Marnoch had to repulse a determined challenge from Melita Eagles' Cornelius ("Casey") De Bruin, who finished a very close, if unexpected, second with 4.18 points.

Vic Reynolds of Croatia ended up in third place, ahead of Prague's David Zeman.



ALLAN MARNOCH

Four players — Dzialach, Rafanelli, Scheinflug and Schaefer — tied for fifth

place with an average of four points.

Dzialach's prominent placing is all the more remarkable because he scored no points in the match against Melita Eagles where he was sent off.

The expulsions of Tommy Anderson (sent off twice!) and Petar Banicevic spoil their chances of featuring high on the list.

The final order in the Contest reads:

Marnoch (Hakoah)	4.22
De Bruin (Melita)	4.18
Reynolds (Croatia)	4.10
Zeman (Prague)	4.05
Dzialach (Polonia)	4.00
Rafanelli (Yugal)	4.00
Schaefer (St. George)	4.00
Scheinflug (Prague)	4.00

Melbourne's "Soccer News" closed down last week.

In order to cater for Melbourne's large camp of soccer lovers, we will carry a full page of news, features and results on the Victorian scene as from next week.

By the time of the 1969 season we hope to increase this to two pages every issue.

SOCCER WORLD is obtainable at all major Melbourne grounds and newsagents.

However, we urge our Melbourne readers to make sure of their copy by taking out a subscription at \$8 a year or \$4 for six months.

Each copy of SOCCER WORLD will be delivered to them in an envelope, as first class mail, reaching the subscribers no later than Friday.

Subscriptions can be taken out at Box 5061, GPO, Sydney, 2001.

Finally, how did these four teams fare against one another in past play-offs?

The numbers in the appropriate squares indicate wins, draws and defeats in that order.

	APIA	Prague	Hakoah	Pan Hellenic
APIA	●	1-2-3	2-0-1	0-1-0
Prague	3-2-1	●	0-1-1	0-0-0
Hakoah	1-0-2	1-1-0	●	1-0-0
Pan Hellenic	0-1-0	0-0-0	0-0-1	●

BARGAIN SALE

The bargain of the year — that's what we offer you during the final play-offs. Our 1968 ANNUAL will be on sale, reduced to 20c. — half the usual price! If you have forgotten to

get your copy earlier, this is your chance to bring your soccer library up to date. The book will be on sale every Sunday at the Sports Ground for the next four weeks.

WITH THE AMATEURS WENTIES, MARRICKVILLE CLASH THIS WEEKEND

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Wentworthville Waratah, second to Artarmon in the premiership, have their big chance this weekend, when they meet Marrickville in the Championship final.

In Second Division, Enmore annihilated Riverside Rapid, and Guildford were lucky to get home against Warringah Saints.

Wenty's win last Saturday at the Marks Field mainly came from their speed on the ball.

Concordia like to slow it down, and then dictate the trend of play, but they were not given the chance.

Richard Webb scored a first half goal, and Wenty gained a 3-0 lead with further goals from Alan Young and Michael Bergman, before Concordia got their only score.

Brian Thomas was in top form for the winners.

Marrickville hope for a repeat of their last clash win against Wenty when they meet in the final.

Marrickville netted through Peter Waks and Trevor Bennett before half-time in their match against Artarmon at Macarthur Park last Saturday.

The second half saw Artarmon on top, but Marrickville always had their measure in defence, and never looked like forfeiting their narrow 2-1 lead.

The fast Artarmon ground suited Enmore in their game against Rapid in the Second Division semifinal.

Enmore were far superior, and Rapid are left with only their arrangements to play social fixtures in coming months.

One match is under negotiation with Newcastle Austral for October.

At Pottery Green Guildford had a 2-0 win against Warringah, but probably this was Guildford's lucky day.

Even a draw might have reflected the play better.

Guildford left gaps mid-field, and made hard work of their win.

In the first half, Ray Bligh scored after picking up the ball in the left wing position, beating the Warringah back, and flicked the ball over the goalie's head.

Guildford's second goal came when John Woods fastened onto a rebound, and slammed for goal, scoring from the deflection from a defender.

Goals by Dan Wuyts and Brian Jess enabled Rovers Juniors to force a 2-2 draw with Granville All Stars in their Third Division semifinal last weekend.

Rovers were never in the lead but came back fighting and equalised at 2-2 straight from the kick-off after All Stars' second goal.

Rovers' goalie was knocked out cold in the goalmouth scramble which preceded All Stars' first goal but a draw was a fair result for both teams who live to fight another day.

RESULTS

FIRST DIVISION (First Grade)		
Artarmon v. Marrickville	1-2	
Wenty v. Concordia	3-1	
(Second Grade)		
Marrickville v. Artarmon	3-1	
Belmore v. Wenty	4-1	
SECOND DIVISION (First Grade)		
Riverside v. Enmore	0-6	
Guildford v. Warringah	2-0	
(Second Grade)		
Warringah v. Guildford	4-2	
THIRD DIVISION (First Grade)		
Rovers v. All Stars	2-2	
Condell Park v. Dee Why	3-1	
(Second Grade)		
Dee Why v. Greenacre	2-4	
Revesby v. Gladesville-H'by	3-2	

FOURTH DIVISION (First Grade)		
Campbelltown v. Newtown	2-5	
Liverpool v. Beverly Hills	1-3	
(Second Grade)		
Padstow Park v. Ku-ring-gai	2-3	
Campbelltown v. Beverly Hills	5-2	

THIS WEEKEND

Saturday, September 7
First Division Finals: Marrickville v. Belmore (grade II) at 1 p.m., Marrickville v. Wenty Waratah at 3 p.m. (grade I) at Bankstown Soccer Centre.

Second Division Finals: Warringah Saints v. St. Marys (grade II) at 1 p.m., Enmore v. Guildford (grade I) at 3 p.m. at Marks Field.

Sunday, September 8
Third Division Semifinal Replay: Rovers Juniors v. Granville All Stars at 3 p.m. at Bankstown Soccer Centre, preceded by South Australia v. CHS at 1.15 p.m.

Third Division finals will be played on Saturday, September 14.

Fourth Division Finals: Ku-ring-gai v. Campbelltown (grade II) at 1 p.m. and Newtown Progressive v. Beverly Hills at 3 p.m. at Marks Field.

HORNSBY COUNCIL FRACAS

Hornsby Shire Council, on a motion moved by Councillor Donald Evans, has decided that only teams from the Shire be allowed to play on Hornsby Council grounds in 1969.

This would effectively split the Gladesville-Hornsby Association into Hornsby and Ryde components.

Junior clubs are up in arms against the proposal, contending that football standards would suffer, and that they do not propose to jeopardise the high standard of Association leadership provided by men such as Jack Woods, Ray Hornery, Max Lawler and Les Hill.

The matter is being contested so hotly that it will become a top priority issue at the Shire Council elections in December.

There are other complications.

Gladesville-Hornsby Association has invested heavily in the clubhouse at Santa Rosa Park, North Ryde, and the club is preparing its case for a licence.

Hornsby-North End Second Division club supporters, led by Bill Englefield, has just completed stage one of a big ground project in Jenner Road, West Pennant Hills.

No First Division club can boast of the facilities now available to Hornsby-North End players.

The ground has its own gymnasium and swimming pool, large dressing shed, an enclosed football ground, and is rarin' to go.

— Keith Gilmour

Tipsters' corner

This is how our panel of tipsters fared in the 22 rounds of First and Second Division matches: Lou Gautier 144 points, Keith Gilmour, 141, Paul Dean 136, Marcel Nagy 133, Charles Spiteri 129.

The maximum possible was 264 points.

LEADING SCORERS

Alston (SCU)	12
McGarry (SCU)	12
Baartz (Hakoah)	11
Edwards (Yugal)	11
Giacometti (APIA)	11
B. Smith (Pan Hellenic)	11
Karyannis (Pan Hellenic)	10

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

The Northern NSW (Newcastle) representative team will make its first Sydney appearance since 1960 on Sunday, October 6, against NSW at Wentworth Park. Newcastle, at the Marks Field eight years ago, were beaten 4-3 by NSW. A return game is scheduled for Newcastle the following Sunday, October 13. Prague and Hakoah players, however, won't take part in the second game as they'll be playing their Australia Cup semifinals on that day.

MARCONI have some ambitious plans for the improvement of their ground. Soon they hope to discuss the matter with their Social Club.

Happiest man at Woonona last Sunday was ADRIAN RINGLAND. In the reserve grade match against Yugal he scored three goals for the first time ever, and this though he occupied his usual position at fullback.

The Sydney METROPOLITAN Association has set aside the month of September for the "Champion of Champions" series. 120 teams have entered the various grades, and each is the winner of the First Division in its own district competition.

JIM BAYUTTI, president of the NSW Federation, said neither his State nor Victoria would accept Monday's ASF decision to send Ian Brusasco and Vic Tutting to the Mexican FIFA Congress. Bayutti said the two dissenting States will try to have the decision revoked at the Extraordinary ASF meeting to be held in Sydney on September 28-29. "It is totally unacceptable any longer that the smaller States, using their bloc voting tactics, should always succeed in rubbing our nose in the dirt," he said. "At the ASF meeting sparks will fly. And if we fail in our attempt to have the entire ASF structure reconstructed, we, together with Victoria, are prepared to leave the ASF altogether," Bayutti added.

RAY BAARTZ is back in training and expects to be fit within a week or two — certainly before Hakoah's Australia Cup commitments.

With associations from the Newcastle district not operating in the State Amateur Championships this year as they were not prepared to face the cost of travel involved, ILLAWARRA took out the country championships in almost every grade. They only missed out in under-13, where Gunnedah were successful, and in "A" grade, which was won by Tamworth. Illawarra will thus have plenty of interest in this Sunday's finals at Memorial Park, Corral. Play commences at 10 a.m.

Don't be too surprised if ASF president, SIR WILLIAM WALKLEY, tenders his resignation before the end of the year. According to some rumors ASF secretary, Ian McAndrew, may also quit.

Foot-tennis

Last week's foot-tennis results at the St. George-Budapest Club: Ackerley-Taylor won on forfeit, Williams-Clarke d. Tomlins-Randall 21-17, 9-21, 21-18, Okon-Marchetto d. Page-Groll 17-21, 21-19, 21-9.

Next Monday's draw: J. Lissing-Parkhouse v. Bijkerk-Bosklopper; Povey-Krawiarz v. Wilson-Keddie; Watkiss-Yaeger v. Taylor-Galbraith; Morgan-Adams v. Blanco-M. Lissing; Lang-Vasvary v. Miner-Lowrie; Bird-Harris v. Clarke-Hardy.

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The wife and two children of Prague's Dr. BUJNA have left Czechoslovakia and are now on their way to Australia.

Despite their glorious 5-1 win over Canterbury last Sunday, the season ended on a worrying note for CROATIA. They are almost certain to be without Giles, Wright and Sloan next season. Giles and Wright are keen to settle back in their home town, Newcastle, and Sloan is returning to his native Ireland.

APIA have signed an Italian Third Division player, who was on the books of the wealthy Napoli. The player was sponsored to Australia by club patron, Vince Zaccarotto. He is a native of Udine, the home town of NSW Federation president, Jim Bayutti.

According to the AUSTRALIAN's Harold Cumming (September 2 issue) "Pan Hellenic could only provide one goal from centre-forward Brian Smith and scraped out with a moderate draw (against Melita Eagles)". And Cumming concludes: "Smith scored 12 goals during the season to finish equal top with South Coast strikers Alston and McGarry". We've got news for him. John Smith, Brian's younger brother, scored the goal and Brian didn't tie with the South Coast duo. He is equal third on the goalscoring list with 11 goals.

EMERY NAGY denies the news item published in the recent issue of "Hakoah News" that he is either a director or even a participating member of that club. He wants to emphasize that he is a member of St. George-Budapest only, where he holds one of the vice-presidential positions.

The PRAGUE management will entertain their players next Monday night at the Coachman Restaurant to thank them for a highly successful season in the course of which Prague won the club championship, their second and third grade sides winning the league and the first team reaching the semifinals. Skipper Les Scheinflug will be presented with his "Herald" award at the function. Scheinflug, in a fine gesture to thank his team-mates for their support, has requested he be allowed to "kick in" something toward the cost of the evening.

The Sydney Metropolitan Association did not uphold a PROTEST by Gladesville-Hornsby Association following a dispute concerning a notification message when their under-14 representative team's semifinal was brought forward from August 17 to August 10. Regardless of the merits, or otherwise, of the protest — and with respect to all those who are doing a good job with the juniors — these difficulties must be avoided in future, and a clear question asked as to whether the right thing is being done for the boys concerned.

RON MCGARRY, South Coast's personality player, may remain at Woonona after all. McGarry, whose wife is

expecting a baby, has just moved into a new house in the Wollongong area. A sign he may have shelved plans to seek a Sydney transfer in 1969.

JOE HORINEK, Polonia's stop-gap coach, won't stay with the club next season. This he intimated at the conclusion of last Sunday's APIA v. Polonia match.

Both coach JOE VLASITS and St. George-Budapest emphatically deny the rumor that next year they may renew their partnership.

Three interesting matches are set down for MARKS FIELD on Friday night, September 6. At 6.10 p.m. the touring South Australians meet a combined Sydney High Schools selection; at 7.30 p.m. Balgownie and Bankstown clash in their Second Division second grade semifinal, and at 9.15, APIA play Croatia in a First Division second grade semifinal. The First and Second Division reserve grades semifinals are sudden death, elimination matches this year.

TOMMY ANDERSON has had such spectacular success with South Coast since he took over as coach from Jim Kelly, that he is now tipped to get the position on a permanent basis next season. Anderson declined to join Jim Kelly in the USA a few weeks ago but is still considering a reported offer by Melita Eagles.

PAN HELLENIC officials and fans turned up in unusually large numbers at Wentworth Park last Sunday, ostensibly to ensure that the Hakoah v. St. George match was played in a "sporting spirit", as they put it. By halftime, however, with Hakoah leading 3-0 and Pan Hellenic trailing 1-0 at Mona Park, they departed in unconcealed disgust to lick their wounds for another year.

Hakoah have again been invited to play in NEW CALEDONIA where they created a very favorable impression two years ago. The visit will probably take place after their Australia Cup commitments, in late October or early November. Hakoah have already issued a return invitation to the New Caledonian League to play at least two games in Sydney in January next year.

MARSFIELD's under-12 Division "A" side, winners of the Gladesville-Hornsby District competition, travelled by coach to Melbourne last Saturday. The next day, after travelling all night, they beat Frankston, one of Victoria's leading junior clubs, 8-0 in the morning. The lads doubled up in the afternoon against the representative Melbourne Metropolitan XI, and lost 0-2. Manager-coach Les Fairclough, assisted by Alf Dudley, was in the charge of the 12 following young travellers: Houston, Green, Davis, Pritchard, Fairclough, Stretton, Thompson, Pollard, Martinson, McNaughton, Walter and Snyder. Both matches were played at Wilhelmina's ground, Jubilee Oval, which was described by the Sydney-siders as better than anything we've got for soccer in NSW.

As we predicted exclusively a few weeks back, DENES

ADRIGAN and Manly have parted ways. ADRIGAN, the man behind Manly's spectacular rise from amateur ranks to First Division status in the short space of two seasons, is still undecided about his plans for 1969.

APIA's brilliant under-10 team won the Combined Norths-Wests competition undefeated this season. The same boys have been playing together for three years without ever tasting defeat!

Manly's talented New Guinea player, MICHAEL DOBBIN, has thoroughly enjoyed his season's football in Sydney. He is now awaiting results of the approach by Manly secretary, Alan Bush, and members of the Manly committee to the Immigration Department, requesting that he be allowed to stay on in Australia. Manly has lost the services of Tala Hobart, who had to head back home to New Guinea following the very recent passing of his wife.

Ferdo Dunaj, the Yugal coach, is holding COACHING CLASSES at outer Wentworth Park every Tuesday and Thursday, starting at 5 p.m. The Yugal club invites promising young players, in the 15 to 21 years age group, to attend and try out for their 1969 teams. Everybody welcome.

The Hon. J. DOBIE, MHR, represented the Prime Minister, Mr. Gorton, at the 10th Anniversary Dinner-Dance of the NSW Coaches' Federation at Valentine's Restaurant, Pitt Street, Sydney, last Friday night. Other messages of encouragement and congratulations came from Jim Bayutti, speaking on behalf of the NSW Federation, and Tom Grimson, representing the ASF. Separate affiliated Coaching Associations are now operating at Bankstown, Gladesville, and Bathurst, and Sutherland is holding a meeting to form their body in September.

Photos sought

The Northern NSW Soccer Federation is eager to compile an album of Northern players who have represented Australia or NSW.

The Federation Registrar (Harry Hetherington), of 25 Thompson Street, Ruthersford, Maitland, 2320, is eager that anyone who might have photographs or snapshots of a number of players sends them in.

The players whose photographs he is seeking are — Frank Coolahan, Dick Sneddon, "Podge" Maund (West Wallsend), Carl Lott (Mayfield Utd.), Alf Creighton, Jim Harden, Bill Stoker, D. Clark, Bill Lambert, Peter Coppick (Weston), Fred Watson, Bob Elgey, Herb Gray, Joe Thorpe (Merewether), "Goob" Williams, Carl Nutson, Tommy Coates, Di McLaughlin (West Wallsend), Jack Gilmour, Bobby Austin, Jim Biddow (Weston), Ernie Richardson (West Wallsend), Artie Walker (Wallsend), "Bunnie" Muir (West Wallsend), Jack Leddon (Weston).

Compact squad was Hakoah's big secret

— By PAUL DEAN —

Tremendous consistency rather than startling brilliance was the main factor in Hakoah winning their first-ever Sydney championship.

For 14 weeks of the season they were perched at the top of the table — at one stage leading by three points.

In fact, they were never placed worse than second — except for the rather insignificant first week when they were fourth on goal average.

At one stage they even looked like running away with the title race.

However, two successive defeats in two weeks (APIA and Prague) — their only two in over a year — brought them back to the pack.

Facts and figures explain Hakoah's very deserved success rather clearly.

For the first 10 matches their entire defence was unchanged.

In fact, in the first 10 matches, nine players appeared in the same positions.

During the entire campaign, they used only 16 players — reminiscent of Prague's sane selection system of 1963.

Fekete, Hillsdon, Marnoch, Yaager and Barnett played in all 22 games — and so would have Baartz too, but for his recent injury.

Relevant facts

Eleven times — more than any other team — they did not concede a single goal and only two (Prague and South Coast) managed to score three goals against them — but Hakoah still won both ties.

Hakoah used the chance for half-time replacements very sparingly: only seven times. Compare this with Pan Hellenic's more panicky 13 or St. George's rather reckless 16 replacement figures.

Incredibly enough, Hakoah did not score a single goal from penalty; however, two were scored against them (APIA and Yugal) and both these matches, strangely, ended in 2-2 draws.

Much to their credit, none of the Hakoah players was sent off during the 22 rounds.

These are all relevant facts. Now, let's look behind the facts.

It's been often said that Hakoah are Sydney's really big spenders who have "bought success."

The truth is that only two of their players, Baartz and Watkiss cost a packet (\$5,600 and \$8,000 respectively).

But these two have proved the old soccer adage that only the best are worth a big fee — but then the best are worth anything, within your means.

Of the others Edmunds, Jones, Hillsdon, Yaager and Barnett joined Hakoah at very moderate fees — yet turned out to be excellent investments.

Fuzes and Fekete, two Hungarian-born boys, are Hakoah junior products while Stewart, Gardiner, Marnoch, Keddie, Walsh, Spilarewicz and Wilson were imports from Britain.

Years ago Hakoah used to be scoffed at as a scrapheap where players, even in their prime, "burn out."

To some extent, this was true: Neal, Vasvary, Hume,

even Baumgartner failed to reproduce their earlier form there.

But in recent years this has changed remarkably — and now the reverse may be true.

Edmunds and Jones, the two ex-Welsh wingers from Brisbane came to life in Hakoah; Barnett, written off by South Coast, has had a second bloom; Yaager shrugged off by most Sydney teams after his return from England, gradually blossomed into a new star.

Deservedly lucky

Possibly more than any other team, Hakoah have been daring — and deservedly lucky — in finding the right place for the right player.

Out of an awkward forward, Marnoch became Australia's best stopper, under the guidance of former coach Jelisavcic.

It was also under his reign that Hillsdon was moved to left fullback and Walsh to right half with the result that these once average players gained representative honors.

This season coach Doug Holden did the same trick with Yaager and Fekete, one becoming a wing-half

the other an effective midfielder.

The real backbone of Hakoah's champion team has been its defence, especially the Gardiner-Marnoch-Yaager axis.

And this seems to be traditional for the club. Some years ago they had Sydney's best wing-half pair in Blutsch and Jaros while two years ago they were lucky in having the entirely differently styled, but equally high class, Walsh-Duffy pair.

Now they are fortunate in possessing the Gardiner-Yaager combination — with the rocklike Marnoch standing in the middle.

What makes Hakoah's success even more remarkable is that for the first seven weeks, they were without the services of John Watkiss, undoubtedly the most expensive and probably most valuable soccer property in Sydney.

Backroom boys

Yet even without him, they set out on the trail brilliantly enough to lead the field by the time "Big John" was able to join them.

It wouldn't be fair to exclude from the "merit

list" some of the backroom boys of the club.

And I would start off — perhaps breaking tradition — with their quiet, always composed and calm, yet highly articulate and intelligent coach, Doug Holden.

In this former Bolton, Preston and England player with 16 years First Division experience, Hakoah have one of the most underestimated brains of Australian soccer.

An introvert in a highly extrovert club, Holden's steady influence, vast experience and thoroughly professional outlook did much to shape Hakoah into what it is today.

Although this may be against all protocol, I would mention in the same breath club secretary Harry Lakmaker, a fulltime organisational man who, in my book anyhow, comes closest to the ideal of a European-styled football manager.

Assistant coach Andy Sagi, masseur Peter Van Rijn and the entire management, led by president Karl Rodny, all largely contributed to the success of Hakoah which was truly the result of careful planning, intelligent investment and tight, professional management.



Hakoah's champion team. Standing, from left to right: Stewart, Watkiss, Yaager, Marnoch, Fuzes, Hillsdon. Crouching, from left to right: Gardiner, Edmunds, Barnett, Baartz, Jones.

Rapport possible with Newcastle

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

After years of recognition by the ASF as the "State" of "Northern NSW", there are some signs that Newcastle is flexing its muscles.

Sporadic reports come to hand that Adamstown may play Wallsend in an exhibition game in Tamworth, and that after the season is over Newcastle emissaries may visit North Coast, Northern Tablelands and North Western towns to see what cooks in soccer there.

Fortunately, for the first time the Northern scene is brimming with promise, and junior interests based on Sydney and Newcastle have helped their country cousins no end over recent years.

Where now? Having invented "Northern NSW," do we regard

the division of the State into two parts as final?

We can, but should we?

Why not belatedly examine the scene to determine which is the ONE BEST WAY to run soccer in the State of NSW?

What if, in the near future, the State is fully divided, and two Newcastle clubs were to be accepted to the NSW Federation First Division?

Due to the very limited drawing power of Newcastle clubs under their present set-up whereby only Hamilton-Azzurri and one

or two more draw well, this could come to pass.

The rest of the clubs couldn't draw peanuts.

Then the two-State system would again look farcical.

Before we go along the easy, but maybe second-rate path, allow me, as a New South Welshman, to protest in favor of one sovereign football State of New South Wales, and to ask that we recognise our responsibility for the whole of the State.

It is a case of statesmanship or of virtual fragmentation.

Smalltalk

The NSW squad, cautiously "leaked" to one afternoon newspaper last week, contains a number of surprises. The greatest, to me is the omission of Schaefer, Campana and Reynolds, though why the selectors overlooked Fuzes, Eaton, Shepherd, Anderson, McGarry, Campbell or Alagich also mystifies me.

Ostensibly, the selectors (not named in the press release) decided to give youth a chance, hence the inclusion of Tuinman, Tracey, Crnic, Armytage, McCue, Manuel and Queded. Without wishing to be a spoilsport, allow me to warn these youngsters not to expect too much: with the possible exception of the two Prague forwards, the others are merely decorations. If the past is any guide, that is.

Selectors like to look like good guys who encourage youngsters — but when the chips are down, they are usually bypassed. And not only bypassed but also forgotten. Or haven't Gardiner, the Cush brothers, Campbell, Paterson, Morgan and many others also been so "honored" recently? Now they have been overlooked. Why?

One thing the selectors obviously don't consider seriously enough is that a mischievously awarded gift-selection, not entirely based on merits, can do all sorts of harm to a young player. We have seen many in the past who, on the strength of all this, got swollen-headed and difficult to control.

Selections, especially of youngsters, must be strictly on merit; normal encouragement must take other forms.

And nobody will convince me that a couple of youngsters who have chalked up only a handful of first team appearances and aren't even considered steady regulars, have been selected on merit.

Let us, by all means, adopt a farsighted, even daring youth policy. But let's do it in a planned way, not in this sort of haphazard, hatpin fashion with which you can only fluke a winner.

Henson Park for soccer — screamed an afternoon newspaper headline recently. Well, it would be nice. But we've had far too many daydreams in recent years to believe it too readily.

We've been told of vast stadium projects at St. Peters, Tempe, Drummoyne and Mosman; we've heard of committees and Lions Clubs and others "striving" for that end. Every self-respecting soccer official can produce ten stadium blueprints at the drop of a ball and even clubs have made rash announcements about their own "stadium plans".

These, unfortunately, always remain plans. The reality is that we still can't have Marks Field covered, Wentworth Park streamlined or the Sportsground obtained — unless the two Rugby codes kindly let us have it.

Wouldn't it be nice if a rich philanthropist one day would donate \$1mill. towards a stadium project. Somebody who's got the money and also loves the game? How about it, Sir William?

With a distinctively undergraduate tone of indignation, Harold Cuming of "The Australian" last Wednesday "shot back" at us in his weakly column, "Sporting Line". A sparsely informed rookie on the local soccer scene, Cuming claimed, with grand exaggeration, that we "... seem to fill our pages slamming various soccer articles in daily newspapers".

What he was referring to, of course, was no slamming — merely corrections. All the items we quoted from the various dailies a fortnight ago — and again last week — were factually incorrect.

If he wants to avoid these embarrassments, he ought to take a little more care in those very rare moments when he does meddle into soccer.

Until then — more corrections. Like this week...

This may be an odd moment to select for such a daring and long distance prognosis but here it goes: St. George-Budapest will have a spectacular revival next year. How?


First of all, they are certain to engage an absolutely top coach, quite possibly from overseas. Second, they are most likely to secure at least two new forwards — both of considerable reputation and ability. And thirdly, they are in the process of reorganising their rather cumbersome administration with the probable result that they will have a fulltime soccer manager-secretary — one of the very best in the business.

These three factors added up should sweep them back among the very best. If not, I'll eat my words.

Prague presented Manly players with a club pennant at the Marks Field last Sunday, in a gesture to recognise Manly's drop back into Second Division. Manly's club administration was not at the ground, however, as apparently they were attending to arrangements for the State Junior Finals at Graham Reserve.

Their interest in juniors is commendable, but as the world knows, you can't run a First Division club that way.

— MIKE RENWICK



HELP
LEGACY
all the year round

FLOTTA LAURO

SYDNEY RESULTS AND DETAILS

RESULTS & SCORERS

Canterbury

1 (1)

Paxinos 23 min.

Croatia

5 (4)

Guerrera 8, 32 and 39 mins., Raeburn 24 min. (own goal), Giles 52 min.

Sth. Coast

3 (0)

Strachan 62 min., McGarry 75 min. (penalty), Alston 82 min.

Yugal

1 (0)

Edwards 83 min. (penalty).

A.P.I.A.

7 (3)

Campbell 35 min., Giacometti 38, 41, 85 and 87 mins., Van Blerk 48 min., Wentzel 83 min.

Polonia

1 (1)

Povey 20 min.

Prague

2 (1)

Willcox 33 and 60 mins.

Manly

0 (0)

Hakoah

6 (3)

Edmunds 14 and 43 mins., Watkiss 23 and 75 mins., Spilarewicz 60 min., Keddle 69 min.

St. George

0 (0)

Melita E.

1 (1)

Thorne 26 min.

P. Hellenic

1 (0)

J. Smith 90 min.

HOW THEY LINED UP

Demopoulos 3 (Lindsay 3); Raeburn 3, Hardy 3; Stripelis 3, Whitehead 3, Galbraith 3; Kauz 3, Ninaus 3 (injured), Massi 2, Romanos 3, Paxinos 3.

TOTAL: 32

Coach: H. Ninaus.

Corry 3; Lincoln 4, Sloan 4; Page 3, Shepherd 4, Wright 4; Guerrera 5, Clarke 3, Reynolds 5, Giles 5, Longmuir 2.

TOTAL: 42

Coach: W. Vrolyks.

Ramage 4; Barnes 4, Cuthbert 3; Anderson 4, Carr 3, Strachan 5; Beattie 3, McGarry 4, Tolson 4, Alston 4, McGrath 2.

TOTAL: 40

Coach: T. Anderson.

Ljulich 4; Stosic 3, Halpin 4; Clancy 3, Banicevic 4, Rafanelli 4; Bert 3, Milakovich 3, J. Alagich 4, Edwards 3, Volar 2.

TOTAL: 37

Coach: F. Dunaj.

Taylor 3; Van Blerk 4, Bottalico 4; Hughes 4, Sambrook 5, Blue 3; McKinnon 3, Campana 4, Wentzel 3, Campbell 4, Giacometti 5.

TOTAL: 42

Coach: A. Iglesias.

Fraser 3; Skiba 3, Addison 3; Calphy 4, Dzialach 4, Komoder 3; Povey 4, Minol 3, Prokurat 3, Constable 1 (Adamson 2), Swoboda 2.

TOTAL: 33

Coach: J. Horinek.

King 3; Harcombe 4, Tracey 3; Blacker 4, Zeman 4, Blanco 4; Gauto 3, Manuel 3, Scheinflug 4, Willcox 4, Reilly 2.

TOTAL: 38

Coach: J. Venglos.

Tuinman 4; McGrath 2, Brown 3; Jones 2, Campbell 3, Stocks 3; Hughes 3, Ripley 3, Brooks 3, Parker 2 (Hendry 3), Waller 4.

TOTAL: 32

Coach: D. Adrigan.

Fuzes 4; Stewart 4, Hillsdon 4; Fekete 4, Marnoch 4, Yaager 4; Edmunds 3 (Keddle 3), Spilarewicz 3, Watkiss 4, Barnett 3, Jones 3.

TOTAL: 40

Coach: D. Holden.

Haffey 4; Nuttall 3, Hillary 2; Morgan 2, Cox 3, Bird 2; Burton 2 (Nowakowski 2), Puelas 3, Sangiovanni 3, Mansfield 2, Telfer 3.

TOTAL: 29

Coach: G. Polgar.

Eaton 4; Arrighi 3 (Cooper 2), Watts 4; De Bruin 5, Woods 4, Duffy 3; Quedsted 4, Goldie 3, Thorne 4, Hewlett 2, Kovacs 3.

TOTAL: 39

Coach: J. Vlasits.

Clarke 4; Johnston 4, Hignett 3; McCulloch 4, Loukanidis 4, Westwater 4; J. Smith 2, B. Smith 4, Karyannis 4, Blitz 3, Logan 3.

TOTAL: 39

Coach: W. Tamandl.

SUMMING UP THE MATCHES

Match rating: * * * *

Croatia ended the season on a high note with some lively football which had the listless Berries at sixes and sevens throughout. Croatia, inspired by the splendid Giles-Reynolds partnership, were always in command and gave the impression they could have reached double figures had they had the incentive. With three well taken goals, Guerrera was one of the stars of the match and showed great promise for 1969. Canterbury, apart from the first 25 minutes, never had their hearts on the job and it appeared as though they couldn't wait for the final whistle of the season.

Crowd: 1,234.

Referee: L. Rae.

— LOU GAUTIER

Match rating: * * * *

With nothing at stake both teams showed a surprising keenness to keep the game going at a brisk pace. Both sets of defenders were kept busy without being troubled too much. South Coast spoilt a number of chances by trying to set up goals for Alston and McGarry. Yugal erred by having Joe Alagich in the centre where he was effectively dealt with by Tolson. Strachan scored a good goal to open the scoring, then McGarry, from a penalty, and Alston, with a fine individual goal, took the heart out of Yugal who scored a late consolation goal from a penalty. Only over-eagerness by the goal-hungry provincial forwards kept the score down to reasonable proportions.

Crowd: 2,158.

Referee: G. Naylor.

— LEN SIMMONS

Match rating: * * * *

If it was goals the fans wanted, they surely got their share! APIA, slow to start, finished on a paralyzing note, crashing home seven of the finest goals of the season. It was hard to say which goal was outstanding as they were all gems. Polonia got off to a great start and looked set for a surprise when they took the lead, but within a space of six minutes before halftime APIA led 3-1. It was all APIA after the interval. Shooting at will in fast and furious fashion, APIA, especially Giacometti — the best forward on the field — tore the wilting Polonia defence to shreds. Despite their huge defeat, the depleted Polonia never gave up and were very gallant in defeat.

Crowd: 3,265.

Referee: K. Lockrey.

— EDDIE EVANS

Match rating: * *

Only two goals separated the teams, but the gap in ball skills and approach was certainly that between a 1968 "final four" contestant, and a 1969 Second Division side. Manly's passing was off-target from the start, and unfortunately Prague's standard dropped in sympathy. Prague gradually got into stride after Willcox's first goal, and ended up by having a 55 minute workout. This was good preparation for the round robin, but for the fans the game raised plenty of dust, but little to enthuse about.

Crowd: 1,250.

Referee: J. Henkelman.

— KEITH GILMOUR

Match rating: * * *

Hakoah won in a canter with a controlled, at times precision display. If they had to, they could have doubled the score; as it was, they stayed in third gear all along with a foot just above the brake. As for the Saints — this was their finest amateur hour, a fitting finale to a season that will surely be long remembered. They might have won some friends by fielding six young local products — a record in Sydney this year — but it's doubtful if this made up for some of their unconsolable fans who stand perplexed over their total disintegration.

Crowd: 2,976.

Referee: M. Buchanan.

— PAUL DEAN

Match rating: * * *

Melita Eagles ended their 1968 commitments with their best performance at Mona Park this season which had Pan Hellenic struggling all the way to the final minute. Despite a good performance by Takis Loukanidis at centre-half, Pan Hellenic missed the towering John Cole in the middle where the missing link was most evident. However, this should not minimise the Eagles' performance. They have never combined so effectively in front of their own supporters. The tie finished as it started, with fast, entertaining football, and although at times it tended to get rough, referee Arthur Brown controlled the situation very firmly.

Crowd: 3,500.

Referee: A.R. Brown.

— CHARLES SPITERI

COACHES COMMENT

Herbert Ninaus: "The refereeing was inexplicable and together with Raeburn's unfortunate 'own' goal helped to break the team's spirit and concentration in the first half."

* * *

Bill Vrolyks: "We sent them to the cleaners though we were without four key players. A pity Croatia squandered so many points earlier in the season because I think we would be worthy semi-finalists on current form."

* * *

Tom Anderson: "We could not get going in the first half, but after Strachan's goal — a real tonic — we never looked back. South Coast were definitely a two-goal better team."

* * *

Ferdo Dunaj: "A good game. South Coast played the better football and deserved their win. Things just didn't run well for us in the second half."

* * *

Adauto Iglesias: "Luck was on APIA's side for once! Everything went right for us for a change. Our true form has returned just at the right time."

* * *

Joe Horinek: "A pity our boys tired badly towards the end. APIA were in great form today, but some of our players gave up without a chase."

* * *

Joe Venglos: "The game was a steady, unspectacular affair. Dennis Hoggart and Ross Manuel will be right for the round robin."

* * *

Denes Adrigan: "The boys did their best. Jan Tuinman, particularly, had a good game, and handled everything he possibly could."

* * *

Doug Holden: "The team moved very well and was in form. I know we didn't have much to beat but I was still pleased with the rhythm of our side."

* * *

Gyula Polgar: "A sad ending to a season. What could you expect from a team that was hardly better than our reserve side?"

* * *

Joe Vlasits: "An interesting game to watch. I was very pleased with Melita's final display of the season. The way they kept the ball rolling between the defence and the forwards never allowed Pan Hellenic to settle down."

* * *

Walter Tamandl: "We never settled down in this game, and although we had plenty of chances we could not find the net."

HAKOAH, APIA CAN WIN FIRST SEMIFINAL TIES

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Sydney's select four teams will begin their traditional play-off series on Sunday, probably attended by near-record crowds.

In the first round Pan Hellenic promptly get their chance of avenging their championship loss when they come up against the newly-crowned Hakoah.

In the other match the powerful APIA, now back at their menacing best, will take on the stylish and youthful Prague.

APIA v. Prague

APIA will take the field with a marked psychological advantage here as they have beaten Prague on both championship occasions this year.

Wentzel's return couldn't have come at a better time for APIA, still smarting over the loss of their league crown.

Campana + Wentzel + Blue + Campbell + Giacometti adds up for an explosive, dynamic attack which puts APIA in good stead to win the Grand Final which has eluded them since 1965.

There is little doubt that, on paper at least, APIA have the most formidable attack in Sydney.

And as they are no slouches in defence either, now that they've regained the services of the suspended Ackerley, whose gusto will come in handy in the battles ahead, we wouldn't be surprised if APIA salvaged their relatively disappointing season with a big splash in the play-offs.

Their display against Prague, the first obstacle on their road to the Grand Final, will give us an indication of APIA's chances of making good their vow of taking out their third Grand Final.

Prague will provide the ideal test because they too have a justified claim for a spot in their first Grand Final since 1960.

Coach Venglos has the knack of exploiting his players to the utmost, and though Prague are no collection of star individuals, they have developed perfect understanding which more than compensates for their slight individual inferiority.

While APIA can always count on a brilliant individual exploit by any of their players to score a goal, Prague have had to get the ball at the back of the net the hard way, at the conclusion of a collective effort.

They will again need unselfish football to get off on the right foot in the play-offs.

The two teams are equal in midfield and in defence though Van Blerk and Ackerley are the more rugged pair of fullbacks.

The brilliant promptings of Blanco in midfield, however, may swing the midfield superiority Prague's way, especially since Scheinflug will also be lending a helping hand there.

for them to get off to a good start on Sunday to boost their morale for the tough road ahead.



PETER FUZES (Hakoah)

Though Hakoah resurrected themselves with a bang last weekend their previous form was little better than Hellenic's and there could be very little separating the teams on Sunday.

Both owe much of their successes this year to defences which easily overshadowed their forward lines.

Even though Hakoah scored more goals than any other team in the championship, no one can seriously argue that it was their Marnoch-led defence which laid the groundwork for their title win.

Pan Hellenic's defence, too, with the rugged, enthusiastic and hard-tackling Johnston, Hignett, Cole, McCulloch and Westwater paved the way for the bulk of the points the team collected over the past 22 weeks.

The big question here is: which team will provide the spark in attack to clinch the match?

Will it be Pan Hellenic with the classy, if moody, Blitz, the opportunist, but unpredictable Karyannis, the bulking, hard-working Smith, or will it be Watkiss, now back at his irresistible best, who will swing the match in Hakoah's favor?

Or will Barnett come out of the doldrums at the Sports Ground where he played his best-ever match in Australia when he spearheaded South Coast to their magnificent 1963 Grand Final triumph over APIA (4-0)?

Pan Hellenic have never been known for their "big match" temperament, in contrast to Hakoah who can rise to the occasion, as indeed they have often in the past when they won the "big one" when they were the underdogs.

This weekend, however, Hakoah will not start as outsiders.

In fact, in our book, they should have a slight edge over their opponents, especially in defence.

In attack, Pan Hellenic may have more punch, but unless they tidy up their rather disorganised efforts they'll flounder against Hakoah's brick-wall defence, epitomised by the granite-like Marnoch, winner of the "Soccer World" Flotta Lauro Players' Contest.

We would be surprised if too many goals fell in this match. Actually, one goal, one way or the other, may decide it.

As in most Pan Hellenic matches, the first 25 minutes could determine their fate.

If they get off to a good start, they'll take some beating and could run their slower, stodgier rivals off their feet.



ALLAN WESTWATER (Pan Hellenic)

But if the match develops into a "slugging" affair, as we think it will, then Hakoah's greater consistency and all-round balance should be the deciding factors.

PROBABLE TEAMS

APIA v. PRAGUE

TAYLOR	1.	KING
VAN BLERK	2.	HARCOMBE
ACKERLEY	3.	TRACEY
HUGHES	4.	BLACKER
SAMBROOK	5.	ZEMAN
BOTTALICO	6.	BLANCO
GIACOMETTI	7.	R. MANUEL
CAMPANA	8.	G. MANUEL
WENTZEL	9.	SCHEINFLUG
CAMPBELL	10.	HOGGART
BLUE	11.	GAUTO

Referee: A. BOSKOVIC.

HAKOAH v. PAN HELLENIC

FUZES	1.	CLARKE
STEWART	2.	JOHNSTON
HILLSDON	3.	HIGNETT
WALSH	4.	WESTWATER
MARNOCH	5.	COLE
YAAGER	6.	MCCULLOCH
BARNETT	7.	PATRINOS
FEKETE	8.	SMITH
WATKISS	9.	LOUKANIDIS
SPIAREWICZ	10.	KARYANNIS
JONES	11.	BLITZ

Referee: H. PARSONS.

TEAM OF THE WEEK

EATON (Melita)		
HARCOMBE (Prague)	SAMBROOK (APIA)	HILLSDON (Hakoah)
DE BRUIN (Melita)		STRACHAN (SCU)
CAMPANA (APIA)		GILES (Croatia)
GUERRERA (Croatia)	REYNOLDS (Croatia)	GIACOMETTI (APIA)

RESULT SCOREBOARD

FIRST DIVISION	APIA	St. George	Croatia	P. Hellenic	Hakoah	Canterbury	Prague	Polonia	Yugal	Melita Eagles	S. Coast Utd.	Manly
APIA	●	1-0	1-1	1-0	2-2	1-1	5-1	7-1	1-3	2-0	1-0	3-0
St. George	1-1	●	1-4	1-1	0-2	1-0	1-3	1-2	0-2	1-1	1-0	1-1
Croatia	1-1	5-2	●	0-3	0-2	2-2	3-1	1-2	3-1	1-0	1-0	2-0
Pan Hellenic	2-1	1-0	2-1	●	0-0	3-0	1-4	1-0	4-1	2-0	2-0	3-1
Hakoah	1-2	6-0	3-0	2-0	●	3-1	4-3	0-0	2-2	2-0	3-1	2-1
Canterbury	1-4	1-0	1-5	1-1	1-2	●	1-1	0-5	0-3	2-1	1-1	3-1
Prague	0-1	1-0	3-1	1-0	1-0	6-0	●	1-0	3-0	1-0	1-1	2-0
Polonia	1-3	0-0	1-0	1-3	0-2	2-1	2-2	●	3-1	1-2	1-1	2-0
Yugal	3-0	1-0	0-3	0-4	1-1	0-3	1-0	1-1	●	0-1	1-1	3-3
Melita Eagles	0-0	2-2	1-2	1-1	0-0	4-5	2-1	1-3	0-2	●	0-0	3-3
South Coast	3-1	0-1	7-1	1-2	3-5	7-2	1-0	3-2	3-1	2-0	●	1-2
Manly	3-3	0-3	0-2	0-1	0-3	1-4	1-2	1-2	1-2	0-1	1-2	●



PAT HUGHES (APIA)

Prague's delightful, constructive "method" soccer will accommodate itself well to the wide, open spaces of the Sports Ground which bear a big resemblance to Marks Field where Prague have established an outstanding record this year.

The Sports Ground will also suit APIA whose forceful play needs room to operate.

Prague may lack APIA's power and punch in attack, but all throughout the season they've displayed greater team-work and cohesion, even in the matches they lost.

Richer in individual talent, APIA have only recently introduced more system in their play while Prague have always thrived on methodical, intelligent tactics which have enabled their players to make the most of their ability.

Hakoah v. Pan Hellenic

Sunday's late game between champion and runner-up has all the overtones of a "sudden death", elimination match for Pan Hellenic.

Despite their prominence in the league, Pan Hellenic are not playing well enough at the moment to look forward to their coming clashes with Prague and APIA with any degree of confidence.

The way things are shaping up, defeat here could see them forfeit their berth in the Grand Final.

So there is much more at stake than just revenge by Pan Hellenic for losing the championship to Hakoah.

Though Hakoah appear much better equipped to challenge their other two opponents it is also essential

NSW Federation First Division

TEAM	AGGREGATE							HOME							AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
1. Hakoah	22	14	6	2	47	18	34	11	8	2	1	28	10	18	11	6	4	1	19	8	16
2. Pan Hellenic	22	14	4	4	37	17	32	11	9	1	1	21	8	19	11	5	3	3	16	9	13
3. APIA	22	11	7	4	42	25	29	11	7	3	1	25	9	17	11	4	4	3	17	16	12
4. Prague	22	12	3	7	38	25	27	11	9	1	1	20	3	19	11	3	2	6	18	22	8
5. Croatia	22	11	3	8	39	34	25	11	6	2	3	19	14	14	11	5	1	5	20	20	11
6. Polonia	22	9	5	8	32	32	23	11	4	3	4	14	15	11	11	5	2	4	18	17	12
7. South Coast	22	8	5	9	38	30	21	11	7	—	4	31	15	14	11	1	5	5	7	15	7
8. Yugal	22	8	5	9	29	37	21	11	3	4	4	11	17	10	11	5	1	6	18	20	11
9. Canterbury	22	6	5	11	31	54	17	11	3	3	5	12	24	9	11	3	2	6	19	30	8
10. Melita E.	22	4	7	11	20	33	15	11	1	6	4	14	19	8	11	3	1	7	6	14	7
11. St. George	22	4	6	12	17	35	14	11	2	4	5	9	17	8	11	2	2	7	8	18	6
12. Manly	22	1	4	17	20	50	6	11	—	1	10	8	25	1	11	1	3	7	12	25	5



ROUND THE WORLD

Czech crisis sequel

The UEFA decided to annul all European Cup competition first round ties between West and East European clubs because of the events in Czechoslovakia. A new draw was made, but hadn't been released at press time. The decision was taken following threats by some West European clubs to boycott Warsaw Pact opponents following the invasion of Czechoslovakia. As another sequel to the Czech crisis the Swiss FA has cancelled the Switzerland v. Poland international set down for September 22 and the Spanish, Italian, Dutch and Scandinavian Associations have intimated they would break soccer relations with Iron Curtain countries. Austria has also called off this week-end's match against Hungary in Budapest as well as the return match set down for Salzburg, while Yugoslavia has notified the Soviet Union it will not meet the USSR on September 11. And in unhappy Czechoslovakia, all soccer has been cancelled until further notice.

Mexican student unrest

The current student unrest in Mexico has played havoc with the local championship. The university club, Universidad Mexico, was unable to play its last three matches which were called off because the Government was scared of further student demonstrations. Growing student unrest is worrying the authorities who now fear the worst when the Olympic Games get under way on October 12.

England gets knocked back

World champions England have been unable to find any international opponents willing to play at Wembley this season. France, Portugal, West Germany, Belgium and Sweden have all declined to meet them. England was only able to lure one country to Wembley in the next eight months — Rumania, whose national team has only won one match in the past 18 months.

Minister of Sports' bestseller

Great Britain's Minister of Sport, Dennis Howell, has published a book, "Soccer Refereeing". A former referee himself, Howell advocates changes to the rules, especially on free-kicks, penalties and throw-ins, which he claims spoil the game as a spectacle. Howell also deplores the lack of uniformity, which apparently, is as great a problem among referees in Britain as it is in Australia. His book has already sold 35,000 copies and is destined to become a soccer bestseller.



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2KY ITALIAN MELODIES 2KY
Every Thursday 6.15 p.m.

The South Vietnam National Day Tournament, which Australia won last year, has been officially called off. The South Vietnamese FA cancelled the 1968 tournament because it could not guarantee the safety of the visiting teams. It hopes, however, to resume the popular international series in 1969 if any degree of peace is restored to war-torn. Saigon.

- Real Madrid beat the New York "Generals" 4-1 in front of 17,000 spectators at Yankee Stadium.
- Barcelona won their annual tournament. They beat Flamengo (Brazil) 5-4 in the final. FC Zurich (Switzerland) defeated Espanol for third place.
- The annual "Costa del Sol" tournament was won by Racing Buenos Aires. The reigning world club champions defeated Anderlecht of Belgium 2-0 in the final in Malaga. For third place Real Madrid lost 1-2 to local team, Malaga.
- Vojvodina's player-coach, Rajkov, a former Yugoslav international of some standing, has been appointed national coach of Iran, the 1968 Asian Nations' Cup winners.
- Stefan Bobek has now been officially appointed as Yugoslavia's national team coach to replace Stankovic who joined AEK Athens.
- Norway beat Finland 4-1 at Oslo last week.
- Swiss soccer has become the most cosmopolitan in Europe. Thirty-six foreign players are taking part in this season's First Division and there are 16 foreign coaches in First and Second Division.
- Wilson, the Everton and England fullback, is out of action for two months. He had a cartilage removed.
- Dettmar Cramer, the FIFA coach who visited Australia early this year, has just completed two coaching courses in the USA, in St. Louis and San Jose. He is now visiting Central America and the West Indies. Next month he'll attend the Olympic Games in Mexico.

Another scandal

Hertha Berlin are in the soup again! According to a West Berlin police report, Hertha officials bribed with 38,000 German Marks seven Bayern Hof players to ensure their promotion to the Bundesliga only a few weeks ago. One of the Hertha directors is Axel Springer, the multi-millionaire press baron.

- Zambata, the centre-forward of Dinamo Zagreb and Yugoslavia, is likely to join a French club, probably Nantes, next month.
- Inter Milan's new coach, Alfredo Foni, has fined his Brazilian star, Jair, \$450 for returning four days late from holidays.
- Vera Nikolic, Yugoslavia's 800 metres world record holder, and hot favorite for the Olympic gold medal, is engaged to Red Star Belgrade's goalie, Dragan Racic.
- Wiener Sportklub won't allow any of their matches to be televised again. When they played FK Austria in the first round of the Austrian championship at the Prater Stadium the crowd was only 1,761 because the game was televised live. The first round of the Austrian championship, incidentally, only attracted 30,987 spectators.
- Omar Sivori must undergo yet another knee operation. His Italian career now appears well and truly over and he is expected to return home to his native Argentina next month after eight years in Italy.
- English international, Roger Hunt, played his 350th league match for Liverpool against Arsenal. Since 1959, Hunt has only missed 31 first team matches with Liverpool.
- Juventus Turin have transferred their Brazilian forward Cinesinho to Lanerossi Vicenza.
- In Caracas, Venezuela, the Rio club, Botafogo, defeated the national team of Argentina 1-0.
- The events in Czechoslovakia forced the postponement of the Mitropa Cup final between Red Star Belgrade and Spartak Trnava. The tie is unlikely to be played. The two clubs will probably share the trophy.
- Seven more countries hope to become FIFA members at the Guadalajara Congress: Aden, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Gambia, Malawi and Mauretania.
- Amarildo is still in Brazil on holidays and threatens to stay there unless his club, Fiorentina, are prepared to offer him a more lucrative contract.
- For the third year running, Franz Beckenbauer has been elected West Germany's "Player of the Year."

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Manchester United biggest drawcard

It was officially announced in London last week that the English First Division in 1967-68 had attracted 15,289,410 spectators. Two seasons ago the total attendance was 12,480,644. In two years the average per match jumped from 27,014 to 33,094 spectators. Manchester United was the only club which averaged more than 50,000 spectators at their home matches for three consecutive seasons. In 1965-66 they attracted 1,084,267 people, in 1966-67, 1,158,769 and last season 1,208,595 spectators.

Helenio Herrera optimistic

Helenio Herrera is confident about the chances of his new team, AS Roma, in this season's Italian championship. "Roma will be the giant-killers of the coming season", he said last week. "I have the players to shock the pundits who give us no chance whatsoever. I'm confident that Roma will finish no lower than fourth", he added. AS Roma have already sold three times more season tickets since Herrera took over, and their training sessions at Spoleto, in the Roman countryside, are watched regularly by some 5,000 "tifosi".

SCOREBOARD

BULGARIA: CSKA v. Slavia 3-1; Marek v. Levski 0-1; Lokomotiva Sofia v. Beroe 0-0; Dobroudja v. Botev Vratsa 3-0; Lokomotiva Plovdiv v. Bourgas 1-0; Miners v. Trakia 1-1; Dounav v. Spartak Plevne 1-0; Cernomore v. Spartak Sofia 1-1. **Table:** CSKA, Levski 6, Lokomotiva Plovdiv, Spartak Sofia 5.

EAST GERMANY: Chemie Leipzig v. Magdeburg 2-1; Karlmarxstadt v. Wismut 1-3; Erfurt v. Halle 5-2; Riesa v. Jena 1-2; Zwickau v. Union Berlin 0-1; Dynamo Berlin v. Lokomotive Leipzig 1-0. **Table:** Chemie Leipzig, Wismut 4 pts.

HOLLAND: Sittardia v. Sparta 0-2; Ajax v. NAC 8-1; DOS v. Go Ahead 0-4; Volendam v. GVAV 2-0; Holland Sport v. ADO 1-3; Telstar v. AZ 67 1-1; Twente v. PSV 2-1; Feyenoord v. DWS 3-0; NEC v. MVV 1-0. **Table:** NEC, ADO, Go Ahead, Twente, Feyenoord 4; AZ 67 3.

HUNGARY: MTK v. Dunaujvaros 1-2; Csepel v. Győr 1-1; Szombathely v. Újpest 0-6; Salgotarjan v. Ferencváros 1-3; Tatabanya v. Egyetértés 1-0; Pecs v. Szeged 4-2; Videoton v. Vasas 1-1; Honvéd v. Diosgyor 3-0. **Table:** Újpest 28; Ferencváros, Vasas 27; Honvéd 26; Csepel 22; Pecs 21.

RUMANIA: Steaua v. UT Arad 0-1; Craiova v. Crisul Oradea 3-1; Rapid v. Mures 2-1; Vagonul Arad v. Progres Bucuresti 2-1; Dinamo Baku v. Jiul Petroseni 1-0; Farul Constanza v. Petrolul Ploesti 1-0; Iassy v. University Cluj 1-0. **Table:** Craiova, Farul Constanza 5; Steaua, UT Arad, Iassy 4.

SWITZERLAND: Lucerne v. Bienne 3-1; Bellinzona v. Basel 2-1; St. Gall v. Chaux-de-Fonds 2-1; Servette Geneva v. FC Zurich 3-5; Sion v. Winterthur 4-0; Young Boys v. Lugano 2-1.

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MELBOURNE SCENE

CROATIA MAJOR POWER IN VICTORIAN AFFAIRS

— From BOB LOW —

Croatia are the 1968 State League champions, adding the title to the Ampol Cup which they won in March.

It's a well deserved success for a side which have looked the most purposeful and methodical for the entire season.

Formed in 1953, the club operated from Geelong for some time, later amalgamated with Croatia on their return to Melbourne, took their place in the State League but in 1963 dropped back into the minor ranks of First Division.

They got back in top company in 1964, spent about \$20,000 on players, mostly from the UK, and since then have steadily climbed the league ladder until now when they have achieved their ambition.

Well trained, well drilled and well disciplined on and off the field, they have been

a credit to watch all season with no glaring weakness shown in any of their line-ups.

Here are pen-pictures of the players who have won the title for Croatia:

● Mike Kovacek (goal-keeper) Croat. Born 12/3/45. Came to Australia in 1963 and is a product of the Croatia juniors.

● Duncan McKay (right-back) Scottish. Born 14/7/37. Former Glasgow Celtic and Scottish international player. Played for Victoria.

● Frank Bot (left-back) Hungarian. Born 27/5/36. Came to Australia in 1961. Played with Croat until amalgamation.

● Horst Rau (right-half) German. Born

24/4/40. Another long-serving player who came to Australia in 1961 and previously played with Croat.

● Hugh Gunn (centre-half) Scottish. Born 7/2/45. Played for Merchiston Thistle in Edinburgh before joining Croatia in 1965.

● William McArthur (left-half) Scottish. Born 28/10/44. Played for Glasgow junior side, Petershill. Arrived in Australia in 1966.

● Hamilton McMeechan (winger) Scottish. Born 30/12/42. Played with Carlisle and Exeter City before joining Slavia in 1963. Transferred to Croatia in 1965. Played for Victoria and Australia.

● Billy McIntyre (inside-right) Scottish. Born 17/6/45. Was with Aberdeen before joining Croatia in 1965. Croatia's top scorer so far.

● Billy Vojtek (centre-forward) Croat. Born 29/9/44. Product of Essendon juniors. A Victorian and Australian representative.

● Jim McKay (inside-left) Scottish. Born

19/11/43. A professional player with Airdrie before joining the club in 1965.

● Brian Adlam (winger) English. Born 18/5/41. Has been around with Bristol Rovers, Shrewsbury Town, Birmingham and Gloucester City. Joined Croatia in 1965.

● Alfred Glaser (winger) German. Born 20/1/43. Played for Sindelfingen in Germany before joining Croatia last year. Has vied with Adlam for one of the touchline berths this season.

● Peter Davies (forward) Welsh. Only arrived from Wales recently and has made few first team appearances. Played for Merthyr Tydvall.

Still in the Australia Cup and also in the Dockerty Cup can make Croatia into an all-conquering team.

This is within the capabilities of this fine team whose leading officials, coach Michael Kiss, president Enver Begovic, secretary Frank Burin and an enthusiastic management committee have worked hard to make them the top side in Victoria.

SAT. DEADLINE FOR RELEGATION

Even before they had disposed of South Melbourne Hellas on Sunday, the Croatia players, officials and fans were beaming, for on the Saturday the defeat of Polonia by Wilhelmina had ended any doubts about Croatia winning the 1968 State League title.

At the other end of the ladder the Melbourne crowd were equally jubilant.

After 89 minutes they were locked in a no scoring draw with brothers in distress Alexander. Then came a last minute goal by Attila Abonyi which not only saved some face for the 1967 State League champions and Australia Cup holders but also ensured their stay in top company for at least another year.

At about 4.30 p.m. this Saturday the relegation team will be known after the battles are over between Polonia and JUST on one hand and Lions and Alexander on the other.

Slavia are not completely clear on points.

But they would need to get a terrible thrashing from Melbourne and see JUST and Alexander win by similar margins to lose out and go down on goal average.

Juventus v. Croatia

Juventus need a win or a draw at least to ensure a place in the 1968 Ampol Cup or rely on the downfall of others. They will be hard pushed even to take one point from Croatia whose new boy Peter Davies, after his first full game, has strengthened the attack. The champions have a good edge in both ability and mobility which should see them through.

Alexander v. Lions

Alexander have to depend not only on their own result but also that of the Polonia v. JUST match and vice versa as regards to the Footscray side. Next to Croatia, Lions are the hardest to beat and Alexander must be more hopeful than optimistic on their chances of remaining in the State League.

Polonia v. JUST

It will be a "red-hot" line all afternoon from Maribynong to Olympic Park to keep up-to-date with the Alexander v. Lions score. At least from the JUST viewpoint. Polonia, after a fantastic spell, have really hit the slide and it is by no means beyond the desperate Footscray side to win their salvation and the points.

SM Hellas v. Hakoah

Both sides have bit the dust with venom recently. And both are far removed from being the solid, smooth functioning units they were earlier in the competition. Hakoah have missed Jim Armstrong, their leading scorer who has been under suspension. Hellas have suffered from the fact several players have been unable to lift their game at a vital stage in the competition. Hellas have the edge and should finish on a winning note.

Slavia v. Melbourne

If Slavia could convert their scoring chances into goals they would be well up in the top half of the table. Melbourne, now safe on points, are remarkably weak and even their two acquisitions from Sydney, David Cliss and Victor Fernandez have shown nothing out of the box. Slavia should win.

Wilhelmina v. George Cross

Wilhelmina keep mowing them down at Ringwood and George Cross cannot be optimistic on their trip out there. Except for a narrow loss against Croatia a couple of weeks back, the Ringwood side have proved almost unbeatable at home. George Cross have lost some fire from their attack and may be hard pushed to finish even square.

— Bob Low

MELBOURNE IN BRIEF

I hear that South Melbourne Hellas and Slavia have protests in to the Federation over the eligibility of interstate imports Cliss and Fernandez of Melbourne.

Now Alexander seems likely to do likewise.

Melbourne have beaten South Melbourne Hellas, Slavia and Alexander in their last three games.

My tip is the protests will be thrown out.

Nick McCallum (George Cross) leads the State League scorers with 16 to his credit followed by Jim Armstrong of Hakoah on 13.

Hugh Gunn, the Croatia centre-half who burst a blood vessel in his leg last week, didn't consider himself fit to play in the first team against Hellas and took his place in the reserves.

After playing a full match Hugh was recalled to the first team at half time with the return of Jim McKay who had flu.

The VSF disciplinary committee has dismissed the alleg-

ations of the English FA on behalf of Gloucester City that Croatia sent player Brian Adlam to England last year to poach players from the non-league English side.

It is expected the ASF will endorse the views and action of the VSF which would completely clear Croatia.

Eric Norman (Juventus) and Vic Janczyk (Polonia) lead the Players Voting Award followed by Alan Stenhouse (Hakoah), Alan Sefton (Melbourne) and Jimmy Rooney (Lions), all on 17. The winner will be announced next week in "Soccer World".

The Victorian under-16 side playing the National Carnival has been coached by Ollie Norris of Footscray JUST, with Eric Linberg as assistant. Team manager is Ziki Nikolic.

— B.L.

METRO HONORS

The promotion and relegation issues have now all been settled in the four Metro Leagues in Victoria and here is the final positions:

- Promoted to the State League: Box Hill.
- Relegated to Second Division: Moreland Thistle and Brunswick Athena.
- Promoted to First Division: Keilor City and Coburg.
- Relegated to Third Division: Brighton and University.
- Promoted to Second Division: Yallourn and Prahran.
- Relegated to Fourth Division: Essendon and South Yarra.
- Promoted to Third Division: Ballarat and Mooroolbark.
- Bottom pair in Fourth Division: Rosebud and Deer Park.

ONLY TWO CUP GAMES PLAYED

— From ALLAN CRISP in Adelaide —

Polonia and Budapest have successfully appealed to have their Federation Cup quarter-final games postponed, leaving only two matches to be played tomorrow. (Saturday, September 7.)

Polonia were due to meet SA premiers, WA Hellas and Budapest were drawn to play Beograd.

Both clubs sought postponement because they had two first team squad players engaged in interstate junior games.

Polonia have Henry Kollecki on tour with the SA High Schools side in Sydney and Joe Larecki in Melbourne for the Australian Youth Championship.

Budapest have Joe Castello and Joe Emanuel in the high school team.

Juventus will meet Elizabeth City at Ramsay Park and USC Lion will oppose Austria at Hindmarsh on Saturday.

The other quarterfinals will be played next week (September 14), and both semifinals will be decided the following week.

The Federation Cup semifinal draw is Elizabeth or Juventus v. Beograd or Budapest.

Lion or Austria v. Polonia or Hellas.

Award on TV

SA's best and fairest player award — the West End Medal — will be decided on Monday night (September 9) at the SAS Channel 10 studios.

Counting of the votes, cast by referees, will begin at 9.30 p.m.

The event will be televised live for the fourth successive season.

Previous winners were, Billy Graham (Croatia), Peter McKenzie (Victoria) and Eugene Nowak (Polonia).

Brilliant young Austria and SA link man, Terry Wetton, is my choice to win the medal this year.

Billy Birch, Peter Worthington and Nick Pantelis (Hellas), Johnny Perin (Juventus), Rab Jones, Roy Parsons (Beograd), Lukas Kouzapa, Henry Kolecki (Polonia), Tony Kieboom (Victoria), Frank Lister, Frank Balter (Croatia), Wally Fedczyszyn (Lion), Larry Moore (Cumberland), Jim Brown (Austria) and Keith Warn (Elizabeth) should poll well.

STOP PRESS

The UEFA (European soccer's ruling body), meeting in emergency session in Zurich, made the following changes in the first round draw of the European Champions' and Cup Winners' Cups (see story page 6).

Champions' Cup: St. Etienne v. Celtic; Malmö FF v. Milan AC; FC Zurich v. AK Copenhagen; Steaua Bucurest v. Spartak Trnava; Dynamo Kiev v. Ruch; Levski Sofia v. Ferencvaros.

Cup Winners' Cup: Bordeaux v. FC Köln; Izmir v. Lyn Oslo; Olympiakos v. Reykjavik; Slovan Bratislava v. Bor; Győr v. Dynamo Bucharest; Dynamo Moscow v. Vorwaerts Berlin; Spartak Sofia v. Gornik Zabrze.

AUST. RESULTS, TABLES

VICTORIAN RESULTS

Slavia 1 (Jurecki) v. Hakoah 0, Wilhelmina 2 (O'Toole 2) v. Polonia 1 (Swoboda), JUST 2 (Buljevic, Kazi) v. Lions 2 (Murney, Walker), Croatia 3 (Davies 2, McMeachan) v. SM-Hellas 1 (Damaniakos), Juventus 1 (Di Marchi) v. George Cross (Gardiner), Melbourne-HSC 1 (Abonyi) v. Alexander 0.

DOCKERTY CUP

Keilor City v. Bayswater 6-1. Sunshine City v. Albion Rovers 1-0. Ringwood United v. Coburg 1-4. St. Albans v. Altona 1-1 (after extra time). Frankston v. Dandenong City 0-1.

VICTORIAN TABLE

Croatia	14	3	4	39	18	31
Polonia	9	7	5	28	24	25
Hakoah	9	6	6	30	23	24
Hellas	8	7	6	34	29	23
Lions	8	7	6	22	23	23
George Cross	8	6	7	36	27	22
Wilhelmina	7	6	8	25	24	20
Juventus	5	9	7	27	37	19
Melbourne	6	6	9	24	33	18
Slavia	6	5	10	28	30	17
JUST	5	5	11	30	40	15
Alexander	5	5	11	27	42	15

MELBOURNE PROGRAM

SATURDAY

Juventus v. Croatia (St. Kilda Cricker Ground), Alexander v. Lions (Olympic Park), Polonia v. JUST (Maribynong).

SUNDAY

SM Hellas v. Hakoah (Middle Park), Slavia v. Melbourne (Olympic Park), Wilhelmina v. George Cross (Ringwood).

ADELAIDE RESULTS

Hellas 3 (Birch, Batchelor, Byrne) v. Beograd 1 (Temelkowski), Polonia 3 (Typek, H. Kolecki, Manka) v. Cumberland 0, Victoria 1 (Wright) v. Elizabeth 0, Croatia 1 (J. Slager) v. Austria 0, Juventus v. Lion 0.

	FINAL	SA	TABLE
Hellas	14	2	57
Polonia	10	5	30
Juventus	10	4	36
Lion	10	4	30
Croatia	10	3	28
Beograd	7	4	28
Victoria	7	4	22
Austria	3	3	12
Elizabeth	2	1	15
Cumberland	1	2	15

S.A. PROGRAM

Federation Cup: Quarterfinals — 2.30 p.m. USC Lion v. Austria — Hindmarsh Stadium, Elizabeth City v. Juventus Ramsay Park.

QUEENSLAND TABLE

Hollandia	11	4	2	52	24	26
Azzurri	9	5	3	27	11	23
Merton	8	3	6	48	34	19
Thistle	7	5	4	41	31	18
St. Helens	6	5	6	32	30	17
Hellenic	5	7	5	32	33	17
Coalstars	5	4	8	25	34	14
Polonia	6	2	9	24	35	14
La Trobe	3	5	9	16	38	11
Oxley	3	5	9	25	52	11

INTERSTATE SCORES

QUEENSLAND Hellenic v. Coalstars 4-2, Polonia v. Merton 4-0, Hollandia v. Oxley 3-1, Grange-Thistle v. St. Helens 2-2, Latrobe v. Azzurri 0-0.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA Perth City v. Swan Athletic 4-0, Cockburn v. Bayswater 3-0, Tricolore v. Queens Park 3-1, Julia v. Cottesloe 2-1, South Perth v. Bassandean Rangers 2-1.

Final Tables

FIRST DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Prague	18	—	4	60	19	36
APIA	14	3	5	54	30	31
SCU	14	2	6	61	25	30
Croatia	13	4	5	44	31	30
Hakoah	13	2	7	39	23	28
St. George	13	1	8	52	31	27
Pan Hellenic	11	1	10	45	36	23
Melita Eagles	9	—	13	45	58	18
Polonia	5	4	13	38	56	14
Manly	5	2	15	37	57	12
Canterbury	5	2	15	29	76	12
Yugal	1	1	20	11	73	3

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Prague	17	2	3	49	19	36
St. George	15	4	3	44	22	34
Croatia	14	4	4	46	20	32
SCU	11	4	7	46	28	26
Pan Hellenic	9	6	7	28	19	24
Hakoah	10	2	10	37	36	22
Canterbury	9	4	9	31	35	22
Yugal	5	8	9	30	43	18
APIA	6	4	12	29	42	16
Melita Eagles	6	3	13	34	54	15
Manly	5	3	14	31	48	13
Polonia	2	2	18	22	62	6

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Auburn	16	4	2	57	18	36
Western Subs.	17	1	4	63	29	35
Bankstown	16	2	4	55	24	34
Sutherland	12	3	7	47	54	27
Balgownie	10	5	7	42	24	25
Marconi	10	5	7	38	22	25
Granville	9	3	10	46	53	21
NS-Inter	6	5	11	27	60	17
N. Bankstown	7	2	13	47	56	16
Corinthians	4	3	15	17	50	11
Hornsby-NE	3	4	15	35	56	10
Lane Cove	3	1	18	21	61	7

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Western Subs.	18	2	2	76	15	38
Balgownie	15	3	4	61	23	33
Sutherland	14	2	6	62	32	30
Bankstown	13	3	6	72	29	29
Auburn	11	5	6	62	31	27
Marconi	10	4	8	34	41	24
Granville	9	3	10	55	52	21
Hornsby-NE	10	1	11	38	46	21
N. Bankstown	5	5	12	33	47	15
Lane Cove	5	2	15	21	74	12
NS-Inter	3	2	17	28	102	8
Corinthians	2	2	18	17	78	6

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Western Subs.	18	3	1	100	17	39
Bankstown	19	—	3	92	16	38
Sutherland	15	4	3	100	27	34
Granville	14	4	4	69	36	32
N. Bankstown	12	2	6	60	27	30
Balgownie	9	4	9	35	38	22
Auburn	9	2	11	56	51	20
Hornsby-NE	7	2	13	32	51	16
Marconi	5	2	15	18	57	12
Lane Cove	4	3	15	26	80	11
Corinthians	2	3	17	19	143	7
NS-Inter	1	1	20	20	84	3

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Artarmon	11	10	1	64	23	32
Wentworth	14	3	5	59	29	31
Marrickville	11	8	3	57	25	30
Concordia	12	6	4	60	31	30
Thistle	12	5	5	57	27	29
South Sydney	11	6	5	38	25	28
East Side-MTK	10	3	9	57	40	23
Belmore	4	9	9	35	50	17
Blacktown	6	1	15	30	82	13
Lidcombe	5	2	15	29	71	12
NSW Uni.	4	3	15	29	63	11
Ryde	3	2	17	21	70	8

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rapid R'side	18	—	4	76	33	36
Guildford	17	1	4	82	20	35
Enmore	16	3	3	89	24	35
Warringah	13	4	5	60	31	30
Yagoona	9	5	8	43	39	23
Auburn	10	1	11	41	46	21
St. Marys	9	2	11	47	67	20
Arncliffe Scots	8	3	11	33	39	19
Kewpies	7	2	13	37	43	16
Sydney Uni.	4	5	13	33	59	13
Penrith	4	5	13	42	73	13
Gymea	1	1	20	22	131	3

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rovers	12	2	2	68	17	26
Condell Park	12	1	3	53	20	25
All Stars	9	3	4	40	28	21
Dee Why	6	5	5	37	33	17
G'ville-H'by	6	4	6	32	25	16
Revesby	8	—	8	45	39	16
West Ryde	5	3	8	37	40	13
F'field-Kiev	2	3	11	27	72	7
Greenacre	1	1	14	26	90	3

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Campbelltown	13	1	2	61	20	27
Liverpool	13	1	2	50	26	27
Newtown	10	1	5	37	26	21
Beverly Hills	8	4	4	41	30	20
Padstow Park	5	4	7	43	49	14
Maroubra	5	3	8	36	42	13
Ku-ring-gai	4	—	12	35	58	8
Chelsea	2	4	10	28	51	8
Central Utd.	1	4	11	26	55	6

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

FIRST DIVISION		
Canterbury v. Croatia	1-3	1-2
Melita v. Pan Hellenic	0-5	0-4
APIA v. Polonia	2-1	1-1
SCU v. Yugal	8-0	3-0
Hakoah v. St. George	1-0	0-2
Prague v. Manly	2-0	2-0

SECOND DIVISION		
N. B'town v. L. Cve.	4-1	2-0
Corins. v. B'town	0-0	0-5
S'land v. B'ownie	0-6	2-3
West v. NS-Inter	2-1	7-0
M'con v. Hornsby	2-3	0-2
G'ville v. Auburn	1-3	1-5

SYDNEY SECOND DIVISION

PROMOTED AUBURN ALL SET FOR CLEAN SWEEP

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

After only one season away from the First Division limelight, Auburn are back "never to be relegated again", according to their jubilant secretary, Brian Leonard.

And this could possibly come true as Auburn in the past 12 months have completely reshaped their set-up and now enjoy the full backing and security of their social club.

At the other end of the table Lane Cove United finished last, but will only be relegated if Artarmon accept Second Division Federation status in 1969, which, at this stage, appears unlikely.

The final play-offs start at Macarthur Park, Granville, this Saturday, and will continue for the next three weeks.

Our previews of this week's double-header:

Bankstown v. Sutherland

The early game at Macarthur Park should be an interesting game despite both teams' poor displays last weekend.

Both sides play a fast, direct and entertaining brand of football without indulging in extreme defensive measures which negate good football.

Sutherland, who had four first graders on the sideline through injury, are expected to be at full strength, with the exception of Peter Corfield, who still has feet trouble.

Hans Friedl, who has been out with injury for the past three weeks, will probably return for this game, thus bringing the Bankstown side back to full strength.

Matches between these two sides have always de-

veloped into close struggles, but Bankstown should hold the edge in this instance.

Probable line-ups:

Bankstown: Friedl; Fitzgerald, Sheldrick; Attwood, Hinksman, Brack; Madden, J. Jamieson, Bamforth, Tansley, Clarke.

Sutherland Shire: Root; Paterson, Shuttlewood; Shrubsole, O'Reilly, Turner; Davidson, Roche, O'Brian, Griffiths, Cucitti.

Referee: A. Faraone.

Auburn v. Western Suburbs

Fresh from winning the Second Division championship, Auburn will leave no stone unturned to make a clean sweep of all the 1968 honors.

Both sides possess prolific scoring forward-lines, but how they will perform against very solid defences remains to be seen.

Auburn have conceded only 18 goals in a full season while Westerns conceded 29.

Both sides are expected to be at full strength, and on form, Auburn should start

favorites, but Westerns could surprise despite their struggle against NS-Inter last weekend.

Probable line-ups:

Auburn: Brommett; Smith; Haggett; Entwistle, Thompson, Keen; Allan, Nowacki, Moffatt, McKnight, O'Neill.

Western Suburbs: Murton; Bastion, Apostilidis; Holmes, Bijkerk, Di Santi; Cassidy, Harrison, Woods, Pont, Nutley.

Referee: K. Lockrey.

LAST WEEK

The topsy-turvy form continued up to the final matches of the competition and last weekend produced shock results.

Bankstown, trailing the leaders by only a point, were held to a scoreless draw by Corinthians in a game marred by vicious tackling which resulted in two Corinthians players being sent off.

In another surprise, Sutherland, one of the most consistent teams in the competition, were well and truly thrashed by Balgownie to the tune of 6-0.

Admittedly, Sutherland had four first graders out of the side, but this does not minimise in any way Balgownie's great display which methodically ripped Sutherland's defence to shreds.

At Marconi Oval, Hornsby-North End rocked Marconi by leading 3-0 at halftime before going on to win 3-2.

At Macarthur Park, Auburn were in better shape than Granville without the services of three players now touring with the NSW under-18 team in New Caledonia, and assured themselves of promotion next year with a 3-1 win.

Western Suburbs had to struggle to beat North Sydney-Inter at Drummoyne Oval and at half-time they trailed 0-1.

However, they recovered in time to equalise and notch the winning goal with only minutes to spare.

CROWDS

Last weekend's attendance: 14,383.

Average per match: 2,397.

Attendance after 22 rounds: 403,649.

Weekly average attendance: 18,347.

SYDNEY PROGRAM

THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

SECOND DIVISION PLAY-OFFS

Bankstown v. Sutherland — Macarthur Park, 1.15 p.m.
Auburn v. Western Suburbs — Macarthur Park, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.45 a.m. — Third Grade semifinal: Bankstown v. Granville.)

FIRST DIVISION PLAY-OFFS

APIA v. Prague — Sportsground, 1.15 p.m.
Hakoah v. Pan Hellenic — Sportsground, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.45 a.m. — Third Grade semifinal: St. George v. South Coast United.)

NEXT WEEKEND

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

SECOND DIVISION PLAY-OFFS

Western Suburbs v. Sutherland — Macarthur Park, 1.15 p.m.
Auburn v. Bankstown — Macarthur Park, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.45 a.m. — Third Grade semifinal: Western Suburbs v. Sutherland.)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

FIRST DIVISION PLAY-OFFS

APIA v. Hakoah — Sportsground, 1.15 p.m.
Pan Hellenic v. Prague — Sportsground, 3.00 p.m.
(Early game at 11.45 a.m. — Third Grade semifinal: Prague v. Croatia.)

Sydney second, third grades

SECOND GRADE

THIRD GRADE

South Coast 8: Astill; Kerr, Ringland (3); Shepherd, Grant, Davies; Tolhurst, Beard (2), Newman (1), Free-me (1), Paterson (1).

Yugal 0: Petrou; Cirjanich, Zivkovich; Anasis, Clancy, Glenday; Viskovic, Juresic, Durtakovic, Apostolovski, Rudgley.

Referee: R. Robertson.
APIA 2: McQuire; Callaghan, W. Burnett; Parkin, Russell, Solimana; Pedula, Sileoni, Keddie (2), Muir, R. Burnett.

Polonia 1: Drewniak; Addison, Henretty; Oliver, Fryar, Kulak; Hanley (1), Urbaniak, McAllister, Adamson, Bazak.

Referee: E. Cook.
Prague 2: Cook; McLaughlin, Parkhouse; Rootsey, Hill, Miner; Moulson, Janek, Lissing, Earl (1), Stevenson (1).

Manly 0: Dart; Bartlett, Langelaar; Coventry, Jagger, Maloney; Dobbin, Ridding, Parker, Watkins, Slade.

Referee: A. O'Reilly.
Hakoah 1: Wilson; Edwards, Sutherland; Migliaccio (Brown), Round, Jeffrey; H. Rutherford, Walsh, Harriell, W. Rutherford (1), Holleman.

St. George 0: Hopkins; Adams, Giovanni; Clarke, Stegbauer, Zuckerman; Liddy, Nowakowski, McCalliog, Kane, Bushby.

Referee: T. Davies.
Melita Eagles 0: O'Keefe; Williams, Calleja; Robinson, Pondikos, Miranda; Wingfield, McDonald, R. Arrighi, Wolowiczzykow, Price.

Pan Hellenic 5: Maglis; Walker, Nicolopoulos; Sparis, Hanson, Mallard; Demos (4), Vrolyks (1), Patrinos, Omeros, Huntley.

Referee: N.F. Jones.

South Coast 3: Radburn; Bott, Newson; Johnson, Whitfield, C. Vangelovitch; Griffith, Sutherland (1), McLeod (1), Conlin (1), P. Vangelovitch.

Yugal 0: Goufas; Kolmanis, O'Loughlin; Abercrombie, Harden, Kelly; Buljebic, Rudgley, Mullin, Wiley, J. Lissing.

Referee: F. Shuttleworth.
APIA 1: Hudson; Staples, Buckley; Steel, McNamara (1), Lee; La Motta, Butler, Clochiatti, Gough, Morrison.

Polonia 1: Gruchot; Blaszcak, Davis; Tansley, Henretty, Wellings; Irwin, Catchpole, Rule, Brady (1), Wolek.

Referee: R. Scott.
Prague 2: Flower; Flynn, Spinks; Clarke, Zenari, Petty (1); Steffe, Lucas, Hromek, Franklin (1), Perry.

Manly 0: Ryall; Bird, Bayliss; Murnane, Russell, Heazlett; Jack, Jansma, Woods, Harris, Grant.

Referee: F. Denholm.

Hakoah 0: Dunn; McIlveen, Reichard; Thomson, Smith, Markowicz; Berger, Ams, Szegedi, Carr, Taylor.

St. George 2: Ball; Gibbs, P. Liddy; Stead, Gordon, Lewis; Denman, Rodgers, Cox, Freer, Treasure (2).

Referee: W. Addie.

Melita Eagles 0: Stern; Fabri, Pandikos; Mapledoran, Borg, Muir; Boyd, Wingfield, Tomic, Galea, Stafford.

Pan Hellenic 4: McClure; Langdon, Adams; Haggett (1), Dredge, Campbell (1), Coelho, Petratos, Sotos, Tiliacos (1), Werner (1).

Referee: B. Thompson.

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